



Press Release

For immediate release

18 January 2010

MP Karen Lumley visits West Mercia Probation

Karen Lumley MP has welcomed the Government move to increase the use of community sentences.

Karen Lumley, MP for Redditch, visited her local probation office in Redditch where she met with the West Mercia Probation Trust Board Chair, James Kelly, Chief Executive, David Chantler and the Head of Service for North Worcestershire, Jane Williams.

She also had the opportunity to meet with front line staff to talk about their work with offenders locally. They received an enthusiastic response from her about their work. Miss Lumley was particularly interested in finding out more about Community Payback work and intends to go out with a work party to see the sort of work offenders carry out in the community to pay back for the crimes they have committed.

Miss Lumley said that she had found the visit really useful and appreciated talking to front-line staff who deliver services to offenders. She said, *"I had a positive meeting with the West Mercia Probation Trust in which we discussed at length the excellent work they do within the community and the challenges they face on a day-to-day basis. I was pleased to meet with the Chief and the rest of the team to hear their opinions, concerns and of their experiences working in this field and have taken their comments on board with interest. I am hoping to spend more time with the West Mercia Probation in the near future observing the practical work they do within the community to gain more of an insight"*.

ENDS

For further details please contact:-

Jackie Bell
West Mercia Probation Trust
Stourbank House
90 Mill Street
Kidderminster
Worcs DY11 6XA

Tel: 01562 748375 ext 1907

Mob: 07976 590132

jackie.bell@west-mercia.probation.gsi.gov.uk